Amendment in Representation of People ACT, 1951

551. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the progress made, so far, in the decision of amending the Representation of People Act, 1951 to do away with the requirement of residence of a particular State/Union Territory for contesting elections to the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) from the State/Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2001 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5.12.2001, and was referred to the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination and report. The Committee presented its report to Parliament on 23.7.2002 and the said Bill is now pending in Rajya Sabha.

Law Commission to study the judicial arrears

552. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has again taken up a study on judicial arrears to suggest measures for speedy disposal of cases;

(b) if so, by when this panel is likely to submit its report;

(c) the total number of reports, so far, submitted to Government by the Law Commission;

(d) the number of reports tabled in the Parliament;

(e) the action taken for its implementation; and

(f) the number of reports which have not been accepted by Government and the reason therefore?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) The Law Commission has informed that

the present Law Commission has not taken up any study on judicial arrears to suggest measures for speedy disposal of cases.

(c) The Law Commission has so far submitted 183 reports to the Government.

(d) The number of reports tabled in the Parliament is 176. Reports Nos. 177 to 182 have been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 21.11.2002 and are proposed to be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 25.11.2002. The 183rd Report has been received only on 11.11.2002.

(e) As and when a report is received from the Law Commission, the same is forwarded to the concerned Department(s) for examination/ implementation. Periodical meetings with them are also held with a view to pursue the matter.

(f) The number of reports which have not been accepted/require no action is 40.

Treating the Law Commission Report as confidential

553. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to revoke its notification of 2000 which provides that reports of Law Commission should be treated as confidential till placed before Parliament;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the details about the reports made public after being placed in the Parliament till date and the reports pending with Government for placing in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Law Commission reports are laid on the Tables of the Houses as per existing convention. Therefore, the reports have to be kept confidential till they are so laid.